

## **Committee of the Whole Report**

November 8, 2016

The Committee of the Whole met Tuesday, November 8, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. in the Quorum Court Meeting Room, Benton County Administration Building, Third Floor, 215 East Central Avenue, Bentonville, Arkansas.

14 JPs Present: Sheridan, Shadlow, J. Harrison, Allen, K. Harrison, Adams, Sandlin, Anglin, Slinkard, Chiocco, Leadabrand, Meyers, Moore, Moehring  
1 JP Absent: Jones

Others Present: Assessor Linda Hambrick, Comptroller Brenda Guenther, Assessor-Elect Rod Grieve, JP-Elect Bob Bland, Road Department Jay Frasier and Ashley Kirby, Benton County Health Department Loy Bailey

Media: Tom Sissom – Northwest Arkansas Democrat-Gazette

Committee of the Whole Chair JP Moore called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

JP J. Harrison made motion to suspend the rules and read all ordinances and resolutions by title only, seconded by JP K. Harrison.

Motion passed by unanimous show of hands vote.

#### **1. An Appropriation Ordinance Levying 2016 Taxes for Collection in the Year 2017 for Benton County, and Each City, School District, and Special Tax Unit in Benton County, Arkansas; Sponsor JP Slinkard**

JP Slinkard explained this is the regular Levy Ordinance that is done every year. She pointed out that there were some taxing entities that did have to have a roll back this year and they are indicated by being placed in bold on the draft.

JP Slinkard made a motion to forward to the November 17, 2016 Quorum Court Agenda, seconded by JP Chiocco

Motion passed by unanimous show of hands vote.

**2. An Appropriation Ordinance Amending Appropriation Ordinance No. O-2015-69 (2016 Benton County Budget) Appropriating Additional Monies and Authorizing the Appropriation of Additional Revenues and Expenditures in Department 0801 & 0300, Extension Services & Health Department, Fund 1000; Sponsor JP Slinkard**

JP Slinkard explained that this appropriation ordinance is for the telephone overages in the Health Department and in the Extension Services offices.

JP Slinkard made a motion to forward to the November 17, 2016 Quorum Court Agenda, seconded by JP Leadabrand

Motion passed by unanimous show of hands vote.

**3. An Appropriation Ordinance Amending Appropriation Ordinance No. O-2015-69 (2016 Benton County Budget) Appropriating Additional Monies and Authorizing the Appropriation of Additional Revenues and Expenditures in Department 0414, Adult Drug Court, Fund 3028; Sponsor JP Jones**

JP Allen explained this request is for a security system for the safety of those offices that are housed in the trailer by the Road Department.

JP Allen made a motion to forward to the November 17, 2016 Quorum Court Agenda, seconded by JP Chiocco

Motion passed by unanimous show of hands vote.

**4. An Appropriation Ordinance Amending Appropriation Ordinance No. O-2015-69 (2016 Benton County Budget) To Appropriate Additional Monies and Authorize Additional Expenditures in Department 0301, EMSD Volunteer Ambulance Services, Fund 3450; Sponsor JP Allen**

JP Allen asked Comptroller Brenda Guenther to give an explanation on this Ordinance. Comptroller Brenda Guenther explained that NEBCO submits bills to us and we do not have enough monies to appropriate at this time, but we do have enough money in that fund that has been collected by the taxpayers. She stated she has talked to Chris Jones who is the treasurer from NEBCO and he has submitted the estimated taxes for the rest of the year that will be needed.

JP Allen commented that this will not be new money we will be taking it out of reserves, but it comes from volunteer taxes.

JP Allen made a motion to forward to the November 17, 2016 Quorum Court Agenda, seconded by JP K. Harrison

JP Meyers asked if this should be referencing NEBCO.

JP Allen asked if NEBCO is the only place the money will be going.

Brenda Guenther responded that this will be the only place the money will be going. She stated that Article #2 could say, this appropriation is for services paid to NEBCO by the EMSD Volunteers Ambulance Services paid into the County.

JP Allen made a motion to amend the appropriation ordinance to say this in article #2.

Motion passed by unanimous show of hands vote.

**5. An Appropriation Ordinance Amending Appropriation Ordinance No. O-2015-69 (2016 Benton County Budget) Appropriating Additional Monies and Authorizing Additional Expenditures in Department 0200, Road Department, Fund 2000; Sponsor JP Allen**

JP Allen explained that this appropriation ordinance was something that was discussed after the budget meeting last night. He stated that the Asphalt machine is something that is really needed, but was ranked very low. JP Allen commented that we have the money to fund this this year and it would lessen the 2017 Budget.

JP Leadabrand stated that he thought the idea of this machine was a good one, but thought that the amount that was requested last night was a different amount.

Jay Frasier responded by stating the budget has \$170,000 and since the beginning of the year the amount has gone up on these machines and you have to add tax. He stated that right now we are looking at the machines costing around \$180,000 and we want to make sure we have enough in the budget to cover it all. Jay Frasier stated that in 2017 he knows for a fact the amount of the Asphalt truck will go up by \$20,000.

JP Adams commented that he might be interested in amending this ordinance, he asked what the fund balance was at this time.

Brenda Guenther stated that out of the Road Department fund they still have \$1.5 million left.

JP Adams stated that if they added the dump trucks to this ordinance then they would be spending about \$850,000 out of their own fund and not turning back so much. He stated that if we went through this appropriation to get four dump trucks it would cost about \$568,000 and would cut back on the 2017 budget.

Brenda Guenther stated that the dump trucks would have to be here by the 31<sup>st</sup> of December.

Jay Frasier responded that he did not think they could do that for they have to be built from the ground up.

JP Moehring stated that he thought they should just pass the current ordinance by itself and would caution them on using too much of the turn back before we have the turn back.

JP Moore asked if Brenda Guenther and Jay Frasier could have their information together to be presented to the committee by Monday.

Jay Frasier responded saying he would research so he could bring an educated finding to them by Monday.

JP Allen made a motion to forward to the November 17, 2016 Quorum Court Agenda; seconded by JP Slinkard

Motion passed by unanimous show of hands vote.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

JP Allen made the request to move the Finance meeting from Thursday, December 1<sup>st</sup> to Tuesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, because that would be very little time for the Comptroller to get her information together.

JP Moore commented that he did not see a reason to move the Thursday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> Committee of the Whole meeting.

JP Moehring asked if it did not conflict with anyone else's schedule could we move the Committee of the Whole meeting to Tuesday, December 20<sup>th</sup> because of traveling plans on the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

JP Moehring made a motion to discuss moving the December 22, 2016 Quorum Court date on the November 17, 2016 Quorum Court Agenda; seconded by JP Shadlow

Motion passed by unanimous show of hands vote.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

JP Adams announced a Budget Meeting for Monday, November 14, 2016 at 5:00pm.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

JP Moore declared the meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.